Coronary Stenosis, Crohn's Disease and Epicardial Adipose Tissue

Yusuke Fukuda, Masaya Yano, Shin-ichiro Miura and Keijiro Saku

Key words: coronary artery disease, epicardial adipose, Crohn's disease

(Intern Med 51: 329, 2012)

(DOI: 10.2169/internalmedicine.51.6534)

Picture 1.

Picture 2.

Picture 3.

A 78-year-old woman, diagnosed with Crohn's disease twenty years previously, was admitted to our hospital for the surgical treatment for osteoarthritis of the knee. At preoperative examination, plain radiographs of the chest showed an enlargement of the heart (Picture 1). Remarkable epicardial adipose tissue was seen on the chest computed tomography (CT) (Picture 2). Recently, Pracon et al reported that epicardial adipose tissue is independently related to coronary atherosclerosis (1). In addition, severe stenosis of the right coronary artery was found by coronary angiography (Picture 3). Since she sometimes had a chest pain on effort, and inflammatory bowel disease is associated with an increased incidence of cardiovascular events (2), percutaneous coronary

intervention was performed for the severe stenosis.

The authors state that they have no Conflict of Interest (COI).

References

1. Pracon R, Kruk M, Kepka C, et al. Epicardial adipose tissue radiodensity is independently related to coronary atherosclerosis. A multidetector computed tomography study. *Circ J* **75**: 391-397, 2011.
2. Yarur AJ, Deshpande AR, Pechman DM, Tamariz L, Abreu MT, Sussman DA. Inflammatory bowel disease is associated with an increased incidence of cardiovascular events. *Am J Gastroenterol* **106**: 741-747, 2011.